

Remarks

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present application in light of the foregoing amendments and following remarks.

Claims 1-23 are pending. Claims 1, 2, 3, 12, and 21 are independent.

Claims 1-23 are allowed.

Claims 24 and 25 are cancelled without prejudice, thereby rendering moot the 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, rejections thereof.

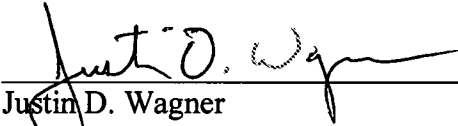
Applicants submit that the present application is in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned at (503) 222-3613 if it appears that an interview would be helpful in advancing the case.

Customer No. 20575

Respectfully submitted,

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